FBIS DAILY REPORT

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EL ESPECTADOR: REAGAN PLANS UNDERCUT CONTADORA

PA150007 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Nov 85 p 11A

[By Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa]

[Excerpts] The following article was published in the Colombian daily EL ESPECTADOR.

The ringing of the bells was not heard, but the cold breeze of a big diplomatic snub blew over the heads of the Contadora Group delegates at the UN General Assembly's Hall. The announcement that the peace in Central America will be decided in a card game between the two superpowers at the Geneva meeting, as in the Yalta era, is tantamount to a requiem for a mediation that has lasted 3 years, and which was about to conclude with either a commitment or a disorderly retreat.

We got the message that the fate of Nicaragua's internal political regime and the peace in the region will be in the hands of the "two big leaders," not three as in 1945 -- Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin -- but Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. What ever happened to the international principles of respect for the sovereignty and self-determination of peoples? No matter how much influence the two superpowers have and what little ability the common countries have to discuss their regional problems, as foreseen in Chapter VII of the UN Charter, we are facing a humiliation for Latin America.

What a spectacular announcement this was, without any previous warning whatsoever, for the four Contadora Group presidents and the three presidents of the support group: Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela for one part, and Argentine, Peru, and Uruguay on the other. Only in one of the capitals of the countries actively involved in this serious diplomatic endeavor was there any information on what would happen, in a dispatch from Caracas dated 22 October, 2 days before the U.S. President's speech.

It did not say much, but it was enough to indicate what was coming. On 24 October, the UN General Assembly's hall was crowded with heads of state and prime ministers from various continents. It was the day the United Nations was commemorating its 40th anniversary. The attention was centered on the rostrum whereat 1000 sharp, Ronald Reagan, the first actor in the West's political scenario would appear. Dressed in a neat blue suit, a matching tie, and discreet but effective makeup, the U.S. President expressed his thoughts.

Reagan promised the USSR "a fresh start" [preceding words in English], a new starting point for friendship with healthy ideological, economic, and scientific competition. The tone of his speech was not aggressive, but defiant.

The United States, of course, is the only country that has carried the banner of liberties; and bordering on cynicism, the U.S. President insisted on the arrangements established in Article 2, Paragraph 4 of the San Francisco Charter, which prohibits the use of force or the threat of armed force. The balance of the two superpowers' atomic arsenals will, of course, be discussed on one bank of Lake Leman in Geneva.

What made the speech unusual was the importance President Reagan attached to the regional conflicts in five parts of the world: Afghanistan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Angola, and Nicaragua. The central theme is that talks should take place between the fighters of each country, and the superpowers will watch the results to provide economic aid. The gist of the problem is the paragraph in which President Reagan warns:

"Of course, until these negotiations end in definite progress, American support (read as from the United States) for the democratic resistance fighting forces must not, cannot stop."

The United States, then, will impose conditions just as in Nicaragua. The Contadora Group will not be able to conclude its mediating effort except in one single way: as the United States says. A nation's might will be the only point of reference in seeking the legitimacy of the governments in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Angola, and the Central American country martyred by the CIA army. The Contadora Group has not gotten this far because from the beginning it did not state the international illegality of the U.S. intervention. It allowed the troops that will invade Nicaragua to pass without saying a word.

If President Reagan has been clear on anything, it has been on his insistence that the Managua regime must resign. Of course, a change of political regime must be decided by the nationals of a country without foreign pressures of any kind whatsoever, be they from the East or the West, the North or the South. To believe that at this stage of the 20th century a change of government can be made under the tutelage of a superpower is to look at history backwards. Placing the Central American conflict in the midst of the rivalry between the United States and the USSR has left the Contadora Group hanging.

The United States has not been silent about its intentions. The Contadora Group presidents believed that support from far-away European presidents Francois Mitterrand or Felipe Gonzalez would be enough to frighten the impetuous Mr Reagan. Contadora should have been turned into a movement of Central American public opinion, and it should have entered on time -- because it is too late now -- into negotiations with the United States, negotiations less fleeting and incoherent than those held by our president on 4 April.

C. AMERICAN STATES CREATE ELECTRIFICATION COUNCIL

PA140242 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 12 Nov 85 p 36

[Text] The Central American countries have taken another step in their integration process by creating the Central American Electrification Council [Consejo de Electrificacion de America Central] (CEAC), which will be in charge of coordinating the policies for interconnecting the electrical services in the region.

The agreement was signed in Costa Rica last week, according to Raul Flores Guillen, manager of the National Enterprise for Electric Power (ENEE), who said that the CEAC will represent various advantages for its member countries.

The CEAC is comprised of the Central American and Panamanian state-owned organizations or enterprises in charge of producing and distributing electrical service in the area. The organization will have a regional office and an executive secretary, according to the Honduran official, who announced that the agreement will be enforced when the document or agreement is delivered to the OAS headquarters in Washington.

According to the Honduran Constitution, the National Congress must ratify the agreement before Honduras becomes a full member of this council. The same situation prevails among all the other CEAC member countries. Flores Guillen asserted that the council's main advantage is that it will allow the six member countries to increase procedures derived from the interconnection problems; in addition, the institutes or enterprises that generate the electricity will exploit the production of their service to a maximum.

CARRANZA REPORTEDLY GETS SIDE RESTRUCTURING PLAN

PY142231 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1050 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Reliable sources have reported that Joint Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Teodoro Waldner has given Defense Minister Roque Carranza a draft plan for restructuring the intelligence services into a single operational center, which will reportedly coordinate the activities of minor groups and be run by a committee chaired by President Raul A onsin. The sources added that the new agency will also include Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, Defense Minister Roque Carranza, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille, military leaders, and intelligence experts.

The sources reported that the draft does not contemplate disbanding SIDE [Secretariat for State Intelligence] [words indistinct] operating as an agency resembling the joint operation of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Yesterday, Carranza participated in meetings at "General Toscano" Hall in the Defense Ministry. Also attending the meeting were Waldner, Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Ramon Arosa, Air Force Chief of Staff Brigadier Ernesto Crespo. and Deputy Army Chief of Staff General Mario Sanchez, who substituted for Army Chief of Staff General Hector Rios Erenu, who is currently in Chile participating in a meeting of American Army Chiefs of Staff.

During the meeting, intelligence experts from the three branches reported on [words indistinct] military intelligence service will limit themselves -- once the reorganization is implemented -- to reporting on strictly operational military plans and strategy while the political part will be handled exclusively by the operational center and its steering committee.

ECONOMY MINISTER SAYS BAKER PLAN 'ONLY AN IDEA'

PY150242 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0112 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Nov (TELAM) -- Argentina has not yet accepted the Baker Plan, but it is studying it, Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille said today. The economy minister explained that the proposal of U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker is only an idea, yet to be fully developed and which might take shape by early 1986. Sourrouille made these statements to four Argentine journalists who recently covered the joint IMF and IRDB assembly in Seoul. A summary of these statements on the Baker Plan was made public tonight by the Economy Ministry.

Asked about reports that Argentina is being considered as a pilot country for application of the Baker Plan, and about the possibility that Argentina might endorse the plan, the minister replied that since Argentina has not been invited to join, he could not answer.

Sourrouille added that, in its present state, the Baker Plan is still a proposal, the political principles of which were announced in Seoul. The plan is beginning to be implemented by the United States alone, which is trying get banks in the United States and in other creditor countries to agree to the basic principles of the proposal. He explained that as far as we know, the Baker Plan is not yet a fully worked-out plan. Consequently, nothing has been discussed about the possible participation of Argentina.

Minister Sourrouille said the United States sees the debtor countries performing a role embodying a fundamental principle, namely, that economic growth programs under stable conditions must be supported through this proposal. This is a great design. This plan is meant to promote a program combining economic growth with relative price stability.

TRADE SECRETARY EXPLAINS AGRICULTURAL PRICE DROP

PY131820 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2120 GMT 12 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Nov (NA) -- Foreign Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero today admitted that Argentina will loose "about $1.2 to 1.3 billion" because of the drop in prices for agricultural and cattle products on the international market. However, he said that the Argentine export rate "will either be maintained or it will grow at a 2-percent annual rate," because we have increased sales of industrial and agro-industrial products abroad.

About the beef sales problem on our domestic market, Campero confirmed "the government's firm decision to fully maintain the price control system," adding that the current overpricing of this product "is temporary."

Campero said our policy of substituting traditional exports for industrial exports "will modify our image abroad and the manufactured goods of our regional economies will play a more important role."

When addressing the newly formed Argentine Council of Communications for Foreign Trade, Campero also said that "our estimates for this year will not only be reached; we will also practically triple our growth rate."

Regarding the EEC subsidies to its agricultural exports, Campero said "we cannot maintain an economic war on those terms, but we are being successful and are selling our harvests ahead of them. We are undergoing a period of depression," Campero said, "so we must hold on and wait for a better period, which I expect will not take long because subsidies will eventually also become hard to maintain." In this respect he explained that "EEC beef prices are lower than our own production costs, which really puts us in a critical position. However, we are managing to maintain our presence in the market through international negotiations."

BRIEFS

COCA LEAVES SEIZED -- National Border Police in Ledesma, Jujuy Province, have seized 360 kg of coca leaves during a routine operation. Police sources reported that the vehicle transporting the leaves was coming from the town of Aguas Blancas near the Bolivian border. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Nov 85 PY]

GROSS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT -- (NA) -- The Gross Industrial Product fell 11 percent in the third quarter of this year according to preliminary Central Bank calculations, the worst such figures in the last 10 years. By comparison with the same months in 1984, manufacturing fell off 27 percent in July, 23 percent in August and 11.8 percent in September. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 11 Nov 85 p 3 PY]

PRESIDENT ASKS CONGRESS TO DEBATE TIN CRISIS

PY141439 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] In a letter sent yesterday to Vice President Julio Garret, who is also constitutional Senate president, President Victor Paz Estenssoro requested that a special session of Congress be called to deal with the consequences of the fall in tin prices, which requires joint action by the state and the public, according to the document.

The most important part of the letter sent yesterday by Dr Paz Estenssoro to Garret says: The recent international tin price slump is one of the hardest blows endured by our foreign trade in this century. This event, pathetically reflected at the London Metal Exchange, has led in practice to suspension of the price quotation of our main, natural, nonrenewable export product. The efforts being made by our government to create [word indistinct] mechanisms among the producers and in the International Tin Council are actions without the necessary force to bring about a favorable change in the recessive trend we are now facing. It is not only a question of the financial and productive weakness of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia, but of the whole tin sector, which is facing an unheard-of and threatening trade recession.

The Bolivian state, which in the 1940's contributed to saving Western democracy, cannot now become an obstacle to the consolidation of the system of freedom and justice on which the Bolivian people have chosen to build their future.

The letter sent by the president to Garret continues saying that he believes it is of the greatest importance for Congress to debate all aspects of this dangerous situation. It adds: The tin crisis requires joint action by state institutions and the public through their social and representative organizations.

The letter ends: Therefore, I ask you to receive the mines and planning ministers and, if it is deemed suitable, that the managing sectors of private mining and delegates of the working class be allowed to be present.

ARAOZ ON U.S. INTEREST IN STABILIZATION FUND

PY150217 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Excerpt] The U.S. Government has great interest in cooperating with Bolivia economically, expressing solidarity with the current government's request for a stabilization fund. This statement was made by Foreign Minister Gaston Araoz Medina, who held a meeting this morning with President Victor Paz Estenssoro to inform him about the consolidation of financial aid offered by several countries. Referring to the U.S. economic aid, he stated:

[Begin Araoz recording] As is well known by all, the U.S. Government has great interest in cooperating as much as possible with our country. And because the U.S. Administration will establish ways of cooperation, additional forms of cooperation could be established. [end recording]

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES TRADE RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PY150036 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Nov 85 p 23

[By Carlos Tavares de Oliveira]

[Text] The recent bilateral U.S.-Brazilian meeting has demonstrated the problems and, especially, the tensions in the commercial relations between the two countries. The newspapers and press agencies reported the aggressive speeches and interviews -- contradictory at times -- in which U.S. officials and Brazilian individuals exchanged harsh accusations over commercial practices. In what was seemingly a dialogue of the deaf, the U.S. official delegation and the large Brazilian group mutually accused one another of protectionism. "Were we protectionist, Brazil would not have had a 5.8-billion-cruzeiro surplus in its bilateral balance of payments last year. U.S. customs fees average 4 percent while Brazilian customs fees average 40 percent," charged John Rosenbaum, the White House represnetative for international trade. More moderately, Commerce Under Secretary Clarence Brown, complaining about the large disparity in the trade balance, noted that "Brazilian exports to the United States have increased 100 percent since 1980, while American sales to Brazil have dropped 40 percent."

Feelings ran higher on the Brazilian side, and someone, in an obviously rhetorical exaggeration, said that "Brazil may have been on the wrong side in World War II." In noteworthy minority, one or two voices were heard in this tumultuous affair trying to bring calm, but to no avail. One voice was that of the hard-driving U.S. Ambassador, Diego Asencio, who said that "there is much misunderstanding on this question and I always try to reconcile and clarify Brazil's viewpoints." Another moderate is businessman Amaury Temporal, exporter and president of the Commercial Associations Confederation. In a recent O GLOBO interview, he noted various considerations and said: "I don't believe in U.S. protectionism." Yet, those mild conciliatory statements are overwhelmed by the mounting antiprotectionist uproar, which paradoxically is heard on both sides.

Unfortunately, the excesses committed, and the long time that these questions have gone unresolved have finally contributed to the deterioration of bilateral trade, with obvious harm for Brazil. Through September, Brazilian exports to the United States dropped 13 percent, compared with a 7-percent drop of exports in general. Conversely, imports from the United States continue to break records, increasing at an annual rate of 7 percent. The decline of U.S. imports from Brazil is rather uniform across the board, although some U.S. companies have reduced their purchases of Brazilian products by more than the norm, as reported by Brazilian exporters who have been to the United States recently.

The situation tends to be worse on the U.S. side because the trade deficit is growing every month (it was $15.5 billion in September), headed for a record $150 billion by December. Giving in to pressures from Congress, the press, and the public, President Reagan has just adopted an unprecedented attitude by creating a high-level commission headed by Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldridge to solve the question of unfair practices in foreign trade. Other members of the Commission (Trade Task Force) are the secretary of state, the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of transport, and the secretary of agriculture. President Reagan said: "I cannot continue to see U.S. workers losing their jobs because other countries do not abide by regulations."

Brazil is likely to feel the impact of decisions that will be made and, apparently, will be enforced this time. U.S.-Brazilian trade, badly conducted and beset by serious problems, is declining. This decline has caused great damage to our exports, which are noticeably decreasing now, after having grown at an average annual rate of 20 percent over the last 10 years.

The private sector in both countries, which is responsible for the greatest share of commercial transactions, cannot stand aside in this relevant question. The influential Brazilian-U.S. Businessmen's Council, which includes outstanding individuals in the business world, could, in the exercise of its own functions, offer assistance to the respective governments in order to find reasonable solutions to pending problems. These problems are so numerous and of such magnitude, that the time may have come to conlcude a Brazilian-U.S. Trade Agreement, setting guidelines the various sectors in dispute should follow in each country. To that end, the cooperation of the Brazilian-U.S. Businessmen's Council will be indispendsable.

SOVIETS STUDYING INSTALLATION OF IRON PLANT

PY150221 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] The Soviets wants to participate in the Carajas project. A Soviet delegation will arrive in Brazil on 18 November to study the possibility of installing a pig-iron plant in Carajas. The idea is to build the plant in cooperation with the Rio Doce Valley Company for the production of 1 million tons yearly.

ENGESA PROPOSES LEASING OSORIO TANKS TO ARMY

PY140234 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Nov 85 p 23

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- The executive board of Engesa [Specialized Engineers Inc] met yesterday with President Jose Sarney and offered to "lease" [in English] (rent with an option to buy) "Osorio" tanks to the Army, according to a military source.

Engesa, the largest reconnaissance-vehicles manufacturer in the world, is very interested in this deal, not yet been confirmed by the Army, because it would provide an opportunity to display the Osorio. The countries that import military equipment usually try to equip their armed forces with materiel commonly used in the country of origin. The "Osorio," without any optional equipment, is extremely sophisticated and expensive: $1.5 million each. Seventy-five million dollars would be needed to equip an armored regiment with 50 tanks. The budgetary problems are worsening, and the only way to resolve them is through a leasing arrangement needing special approval from the Planning Ministry and a presidential decree.

PINOCHET TO STUDY, DECIDE ON TREATY WITH PERU

PY150136 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1312 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 14 Nov (EFE) -- Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle stated today that Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet will decide on the path to be followed regarding the pending points in the negotiations with Peru on the 1929 treaty. Del Valle stated that the study of the pending matters will conclude within the next 15 days, before the foreign minister's trip to Lima for a new meeting with his Peruvian counterpart Allan Wagner. The Chilean foreign minister intends to take to Lima the Chilean answers to the pending matters such as the arms race, the struggle against terrorism, and the future meetings of the joint commission.

NATIONAL PARTY URGES PINOCHET TO SEEK AGREEMENT

PY142132 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0339 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 13 Nov (EFE) -- The National Party, one of the main Chilean rightwing parties, today urged General Pinochet to seek a nationwide agreement. The National Party issued a public statement released by its executive board asking for understanding in order to avoid confrontation and ideological polarization.

The National Party, together with 10 other rightwing, centrist, and leftist parties, has signed the so-called National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy. Basically, this accord calls for direct elections for president of the nation, the election of a National Congress, a reform of the 1980 Constitution, and freedom for political parties.

In its statement, the National Party asked General Pinochet to participate in a dialogue and described the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy as a development of national significance.

AD TO HOLD RALLY FOR DEMOCRACY 21 NOVEMBER

PY142151 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] The Democratic Alliance [AD] today at noon officially announced it will hold a rally on 21 November at O'Higgins Park; it has invited workers, students, women, businessmen, shantytown residents, youths, and retirees to participate.

AD leaders noted that all Chileans who want democracy are invited to this rally. The AD adopted this decision after the government decided not to require payments of a guarantee in U.F. [unit of account adjusted for inflation known as Unidad de Fomento] in order for the AD to hold the rally. The AD's decision was disclosed by AD President Gabriel Valdes.

[Begin recording] The AD executive board has issued the following statement:

1. Since the unacceptable guarantee has been eliminated those who requested authorization to hold the "Chile Demands Democracy" rally have decided to hold it on 21 November at 1700 in O'Higgins Park.

2. From the interior minister's statement, we have concluded that he has given his word to grant all the necessary guarantees for the normal development of this rally. This implies free access of persons and vehicles to the park, and freedom to issue the proper publicity in order to inform the public and summon them to take part in the rally. This mainly means that police and security forces will abstain from provoking violence.

3. Chileans who want democracy have always made agreements in a responsible manner and this rally will reassert this attitude.

4. The public must be aware of the dilatory attitude that the government has adopted at levels because of which the rally must now be organized in 5 days although we requested the government's authorization 5 weeks ago. This is a challenge for all Chileans, and we are sure they will be successful.

5. O'Higgins Park belongs to all Chileans. Therefore, the rally will be attended by a multitude comprising workers, students, women, businessmen, shantytown residents, youths, and retirees -- that is, all national sectors that demand democracy, freedom, peace, justice, and work. [end recording]

Gabriel Valdes noted that this rally will be attended by all national sectors who aspire to achieve a democracy.

CHURCH DOCUMENT DENOUNCES STATE TERRORISM

PY150143 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0947 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Santiago, 14 Nov (EFE) -- The standing committee of the Chilean episcopate yesterday issued a document charging the military government with state terrorism and indicating that spreading social conflicts are rooted in the lack of political freedom. The Chilean bishops' declaration states their sorrow over the fact that the country has been plunged into a state of war only a few months before Pope John Paul II is due to arrive in Chile in the beginning of 1986.

The declaration of the standing committee outlines the course of action for the Chilean Church over the next 3 years and indicates that Chile is witnessing two kinds of terrorism: state terrorism and terrorism born from frustration and dissatisfaction. The bishops condemn the use of violence in Chile and say that arbitrary arrests, exiles and banishments, political harassment, and all sorts of political crimes are just as violent as bombings and murders.

The document goes on to add that there are several kinds of terrorist violence as well: a state terrorism channeled through security organizations and the terrorism unleashed by the victims of the former who are frustrated and dissatisfied. The two kinds of terrorism are equally inhuman and intolerable. But state violence is worse because by definition the government is supposed to act in the name of truth and justice.

Further on in their declaration, the bishops state that social tensions are the result of a lack of political freedom and of the growth of misery, and national reconciliation is the permanent mission of the church, which wants democracy for the country.

GENERAL CONTRERAS ACQUITTED IN LETELIER HOMICIDE

PY150224 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Excerpt] A Santiago military court has decided to acquit General Manuel Contreras Sepulveda, retired, in a case involving the forging of a passport and the homicide of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier. The court's ruling was handed down following a petition filed by attorney Sergio Miranda Harrington, Contreras' attorney.

ARMS CACHE UNCOVERED AT COMMUNIST PARTY HIDEOUT

PY141739 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] The Investigative Police have discovered a large arms cache inside a house used as a hideout by the outlawed Communist Party. The police officially announced that the discovery was made in the house, located in the community of Puente Alto, inhabited by extremist Jorge Reynaldo Lopez Acuna, 26, who s being sought by the police.

According to the police, the arms were reportedly going to be used in extremist attacks against government employees and property to spread alarm and chaos among the people.

Among the arms that were discovered by the police are a (Famae).32-caliber revolver, a 9-mm Browning pistol with two cartridges, a 16 gauge double-barreled (?Sarrasqueta) shotgun a 12-gauge Remington pump shotgun, a yataghan knife with sheath, a large quantity of ammunition for these guns, a great quantity of Marxist literature, guerrilla instructions, a diary, a green parka, gloves, and other things.

The investigative police has reported that all the articles and guns will be sent to the Santiago Military Court.

BRIEFS

TELEVISION DIRECTOR -- Manfredo Mayol Duran, director of the magazine ERCILLA, was appointed today as new director of National Television. He will take up his new post this afternoon. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Nov 85 PY]

UNEMPLOYMENT INCREASING -- Unemployment in the metropolitan area has risen to 18.4 percent of the overall work force during the period July-September 1985. Nationwide, unemployment has risen from 13.4 to 13.6 percent, according to data released this morning by the National Institute of Statistics. This means that 514,000 people are unemployed: 412,000 were fired from their jobs, and 101,000 are seeking jobs for the first time. [Summary] [Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Nov 85 PY]

VOLCANO, MUDSLIDE CASUALTIES COULD REACH 20,000

PA150402 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0336 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Bogota, 14 Nov (EFE) -- Colombian Health Minister Rafael de Zubiria asserted tonight that the provisional death toll due to the mud avalanche which today destroyed several communities in the country's central region could rise to 15,000 or 20,000 people. His estimate, based on observations at the zone affected by the floods provoked by the Nevado del Ruiz Volcano, is the first official figure reported in Colombia.

The minister's estimate, which he described as provisional and approximate, coincides with the figures given by the Colombian news media on Thursday. A large number of the victims were in the community of Armero, located on the volcano's eastern side, 200 km northwest of Bogota. The town of 20,000 inhabitants was destroyed by the mud.

Betancur Assesses Damage

PA150213 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 0018 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] President Belisario Betancur has directed part of the rescue operations. He personally flew over the disaster area for 2 hours and spoke with survivors. He ordered the total mobilization of all sectors of the nation and resources in order to cope with the emergency.

The entire administrative staff went to the disaster area to coordinate the rescue operations, using (Leiva) as the center of operations. President Belisario Betancur and his wife, Defense Minister General Vega Uribe, and the manager of the Territorial Credit Institute, Maria Eugenia Rojas de Moreno Diaz, witnessed heartbreaking scenes when the helicopters were bringing the hundreds of injured persons from Armero.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr President: According to reports you have received from the rescue operations, what is being done to rescue and help the victims of this tragedy?

[Betancur] This tragedy cannot be described. It is a great tragedy. We have called for the solidarity of the entire world, of Latin America, of all our neighbors. We are starting to receive aid from several neighboring countries; we are receiving aid from all parts of the country, arriving here in Tolima and Chinchina, and specifically in Armero. I want to ask: Please do not send assistance to Armero itself, as it is practically destroyed, but to (Leiva), where we have set up a storage area, a heliport, and a communications center. From here, through the Red Cross, Civil Defense, the Armed Forces, the various government institutions, and private individuals we are giving all possible support to the people of Armero and evacuating them.

I am leaving now with General Vega Uribe, the health minister, other officials, my wife, and Mrs Maria Eugenia Rojas, and we are going to go up the river to inspect the area personally and see if the waters are damming somewhere else. I appeal for the solidarity of all Colombians. Once again, tragedy strikes us, but with the help of God we will pull through. [end recording]

President Betancur went up and down the river, from north to south, and there were no dams. The bad weather conditions prevailing tonight prevented the president of the republic from returning to Bogota. He has had to stay overnight in Armero.

New Avalanche Reported

PA150452 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 0438 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] It has been reported unofficially that there has apparently been another avalanche. We know that several dams have been formed from the landslides. If this avalanche occurs, it would be a chain reaction, and the damage could be three or four times greater than yesterday. We call on the people. We urge you to leave the area. We repeat: This is unofficial; apparently an avalanche is advancing down the Chinchina River. Please leave the area, urgent, abandon the area.

Ecopetrol Issues Communique

PA141931 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1843 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Communique issued by the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise, Ecopetrol, on 14 November -- read by announcer]

[Text] Ecopetrol announces to the public that in the wake of the tragedy in Tolima and Caldas Departments, damage has been reported to the following means of transportation of crude and Ecopetrol products:

1. On Lagunilla River, a bridge used to carry the Mariquita, Gualanday, and Neiva oil polyduct [poliducto] and the pipeline from Neiva to Puerto Salgar have been damaged, affecting and interrupting the pumping in those two lines;

2. The Puerto Salgar-Manizales and Cartago-Yumbo polyduct is interrupted in the Mariquita and Chinchina areas.

Ecopetrol officials are evaluating the damage and hope to make the necessary repairs as soon as possible and restore the pumping of oil products in the next few days.

The main difficulty in making these repairs is an interruption in ground transportation. The mobilization of equipment and personnel is being done by helicopter. We trust that with existing inventories at the various supply plants we will be able to meet the fuel demand. In addition, the activity undertaken to recover our pipelines will surely allow us to restore our service as soon as possible, thus guaranteeing a normal supply.

We appeal to the people's good judgement to reduce consumption, giving priority to vehicles and means of transportation devoted to public service and rescue operations.

Gas Rationing Implemented

PA141735 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1653 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] A new complication has emerged. With the break in the polyduct [poliducto] that transports gasoline from Mariquita to Gualanday, the flow of this fuel has been interrupted. Traffic on the highway between Doradas and Ibague has also been interrupted because several bridges have been destroyed. In response to this, a decree has just been issued announcing that until the gasoline emergency in Ibague is overcome the sale of this fuel will be limited to a maximum of 5 gallons per vehicle.

Media Under Government Control

PA141721 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1644 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] The Communications Ministry has just issued the following communique:

Communications Minister Nohemi Sanin Posada hereby informs the people that as a result of the catastrophe resulting from the eruptions of the Nevada del Ruiz volcano, all communications media must be placed at the disposal of the authorities in order to give victims whatever help is necessary. This measure involves radio stations, television channels, private radio-communication stations, citizen-band radio stations, ham radios, and any other stations using state radio-electric channels, including experimental stations.

The utilization of all telecommunications services to handle this emergency will be in effect for as long as circumstances warrant.

The minister also appeals to all the media to safeguard and help maintain the calm necessary to face this type of emergency and is asking all citizens to be as brief as possible when using telephone lines, which must be used to help with the rescue operation and to keep relatives of victims constantly informed.

The Communications Ministry and TELECOM [National Enterprise for Telecommunications] are deploying technicians and equipment to repair damaged communications lines and to use existing services to overcome the emergency.

JUDICIAL WORKERS END 4-DAY PROTEST STRIKE

PA142233 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1956 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Bogota, 14 Nov (DPA) -- The judicial workers' organization, which had been on strike for the past 4 days protesting the actions that took place at Bogota's Palace of Justice 8 days ago, has lifted the strike, instead declaring all its members on a state of alert. A communique released to the press by the union of judges and workers of the country's judicial system states that "in view of the fact that the fundamental objectives set forth by the movement have been met to the extent possible and in order not to fall into the predicament of irrationality that characterized those who handled the situation of the Palace of Justice takeover, the assembly has decided to end this phase of its activities and to declare all judicial workers on a state of alert and hold permanent assemblies in the assurance that its actions will continue."

Normal activities in the various judicial offices, particularly in the higher courts, were resumed today. Public hearings were scheduled at several of them. Meanwhile, Fernando Uribe Restrepo, 57, was appointed new president of the Supreme Court of Justice after the death in the guerrilla attack by the 19 April Movement (M-19) against the Palace of Justice, seat of the Supreme Court and the State Council. The new president is a specialist in labor law and a member of the International Worker's Organization committee.

M-19 ADDRESSES UN HEAD ON PALACE SIEGE

PA140049 Paris AFP in Spanish 2124 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] United Nations, 13 Nov (AFP) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur "murdered justice" by ordering his Army to attack the Palace of Justice on 7 November, the M-19 guerrilla movement declared today after admitting its "military error" in the operation that left an official toll of 88 dead.

In an open letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and distributed to the press, the M-19 secretary of international relations, Evereth Bustamante, affirmed that "the last moral redoubt left to the old oligarchic Colombia was sacrificed."

"We went to the Palace of Justice to obtain judgement on the abysmal distance between the official words and the painful facts of our everyday life, so that the people and the world could learn the truth about the peace process and the painful facts of our everyday life," the M-19 explained in its letter, after affirming that the truce announced by Betancur "never existed on the part of the Armed Forces."

The rebels admitted their "military error in evaluating the reaction of militarism. If we had properly weighed it, we would never have engaged in this action. They shall never be able to justify such a lack of proportion," Bustamante told Perez de Cuellar, referring to the government's decision to occupy the Palace of Justice without a dialogue.

In its letter the M-19 makes no specific request to the United Nations, as it has "no alternative but to appeal to history." The operation, "with a cost we did not desire, revealed one true fact: the government's disposition to show its barbarism mercilessly (exactly what it had tried to conceal), the M-19 added. [quotation marks as received]

"Betancur's peace and his political model are the peace of the grave," the letter to Perez de Cuellar concludes. All efforts to verify if the text distributed to the press was actually received by the UN secretary general were fruitless. The United Nations, as a general practice, deals with governments or recognized entities or listens to individuals in particular circumstances. The letter of the M-19 secretary of international relations does not fall into any of those categories.

LIBERAL LEGISLATORS SEEK BETANCUR RESIGNATION

PA140438 Paris AFP in Spanish 0025 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Bogota, 13 Nov (AFP) -- Liberal legislators who wish to sue Colombian President Belisario Betancur for damages today requested his resignation. This initiative rose from the presidential decision not to negotiate with the M-19 [19 April movement] leftist guerrillas who occupied the Palace of Justice on Wednesday in an action that resulted in approximately 100 deaths.

Meanwhile, President Betancur has received the support of his ministers, two of whom have said that "the president will not resign," and added that he will remain president until 7 August 1986 when his term of office expires.

This statement was made by Labor Minister Jorge Carrillo and Justice Minister Enrique Parejo following an extraordinary cabinet meeting held this morning and which was chaired by President Betancur himself.

The Conservative Party, of which President Betancur is a member, has supported the president. Some Conservative Party representatives in the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives have said that those who are demanding the president's resignation are "opportuntists." Betancur's resignation from the office of the Presidency was suggested by legislators who support Alvaro Uribe, presidential candidate of the Liberal Party, who has accused the president of exceeding his authority.

PCC BLAMES M-19 FOR JUSTICE PALACE MASSACRE

PA140410 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1210 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] Bogota, 12 Nov (EFE) -- The Communist Party of Colombia, PCC, today considered the occupation of the Palace of Justice in Bogota by a guerrilla commando last week, where some 100 persons died, quite costly to the M-19. The M-19 commando group that occupied the palace probably thought it could repeat the publicized occupation of the Dominican Embassy, the PCC notes, adding: However, it turned out to be the most costly publicity stunt in the world. According to the PCC, the M-19 showed a lack of clarity of its leaders, who never took into account the changes in the political situation. It described as showing little initiative the maneuver to set up in the court a sort of trial against the government.

It also considered the occupation by the M-19 an error because it provided a cheap victory for militarism, which was able to concentrate its firepower against the palace, trying out new weapons for the first time. In an editorial of the weekly VOZ, organ of the Communist Party, which EFE previewed, PCC Secretary General Gilberto Vieira makes an appraisal of the M-19 operation. It considers the operation totally isolated from the popular masses and the entire revolutionary movement, and it claims that the chosen target was a mistake, because the Supreme Court of Justice and the State Council were institutions of great prestige in light of their ruling against tortures and other state crimes and for the annulment of repressive measures.

The editorial also criticized the fact that the pleas and proposals of the president of the Supreme Court of Justice, Alfonso Reyes Echandia, known defender of human rights, were not taken into account, which creates a great responsibility for the president of the Republic. In this case, the editorial charges, Betancur did not institute a dialogue, which he had promoted for several years. The editorial exhorts establishing the truth about everything that took place to place due responsibility for such a great tragedy, noting that the responsibility of the M-19 leaders stands out. It is also necessary to clearly establish the responsibility of the government and the military high commands.

Finally, the PCC said that the peace process must continue with the instrument of dialogue and dismisses the declaration of the peace commission which affirmed that the M-19 had disqualified its members indefinitely from dialogue with the commission.

NEWSMAN ZUCCOLILLO DENIES SUBVERSIVE STATEMENTS

PY092240 Paris AFP in Spanish 0236 GMT 8 Nov 85

[Text] Asuncion, 7 Nov (AFP) -- Aldo Zuccolillo, the director of the closed newspaper ABC COLOR, will be expelled from Paraguay, according to spokesmen of the opposition National Accord, who commented on the detention of the spirited newsman at the police station on 5 November.

The reaction of the Paraguayan opposition, not recognized by the government, is a response to a police communique that said Zuccolillo denied the statements published in the international press where he was quoted as referring to the democracy and freedom of the press in Paraguay.

When asked by AFP, newsman Zuccolillo today denied that he had advocated subversion as stated in the police communique. He said he does not believe his statements have a clearly subversive connotation or incite to subversion as a method to change the political structure of the country, much less incite violent methods to overthrow a government, as stressed in the police document.

Zuccolillo denied there had been any talk whatever with Police Chief Alcibiades Britez and he confirmed his statements in New York in which he said: Neither there nor on any other occasion have I advocated subversion, because I am opposed to violence.

He said he himself is suffering from restrictions on freedom of the press, and in order to achieve its full restoration in the country he will make the greatest efforts, while respecting the legal rules protecting that right of all free (?men).

PEASANT LEADER PREVENTED FROM LEAVING COUNTRY

PY122016 Paris AFP in Spanish 1400 GMT 12 Nov 85

[Text] Asuncion, 12 Nov (AFP) -- The Paraguayan police yesterday stopped peasant leader Marcelino Corazon Medina from going to Ecuador, according to a report to the press by Medina himself.

Medina was to participate in Quito in a meeting of Latin American peasant organizations, but he was detained by policemen of the Investigations Department, acting on orders.

The FRG interior minister, who visited the country last October, asked for and obtained from Paraguayan President General Alfredo Stroessner the release of the peasant leader, who had been in detention for 1 month and was on a hunger strike.

Marcelo Medina, president of the Farmer's Committee, advocates the growing of self-sufficiency crops instead of export crops, such as soybean and cotton, because of the absurdly low prices paid to the farmers.

PERU, USSR TO SIGN NEW FISHING AGREEMENT

PY141422 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Fisheries Minister Jose Palomino has announced that a fishing agreement with the USSR is about to be signed. Under the terms of the agreement, Peru will receive 15 percent of the Soviet ships' catch.

[Begin recording] [Palomino] We are now holding talks with the USSR over an agreement that will allow the Soviets to operate their ships off the Peruvian coast in return for 15 percent of the catch, which will be delivered to EPSEP [Public Enterprise for Fishing Service] at no cost. This means that they will be paying 15 percent of their catch for the right to operate their ships in Peruvian waters.

[Unidentified reporter] How much fish will be made available to the people through this agreement, which provides for 15 percent of the catch instead of 8 percent?

[Palomino] We want to implement this agreement for 3 or 4 months. Later we will be able to sign broader agreements for longer periods. This agreement involves a relatively small quantity of fish, 60,000 tons, of which Peru will receive 15 percent, that is, 9,000 tons.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, speaking at the FAO conference, President Alan Garcia offered Peruvian sea resources to combat starvation throughout the world. What are the criteria for implementing this offer?

[Palomino] I talked with President Garcia about this part of his speech. I believe we have to be very clear in order to avoid misunderstandings. The president meant that we cannot allow the plundering of our sea resources and that we can help feed those peoples who are even poorer than our own. What is our specific proposal? [as received] [end recording]

REACTIONS TO U.S. CRITICISM OF AGRARIAN POLICY

PY141518 Lima Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] On 12 November, U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block criticized the Peruvian agrarian policy saying that it promotes isolationism. This criticism was today answered by Agriculture Vice Minister Jacobo (Miskin) and Senator Luis Santamaria.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Why do you think the U.S. Agriculture Secretary has so harshly criticized what President Alan Garcia said about the problems in the agrarian sector?

[Unidentified speaker] I believe it is because of the problems they are facing in accumulating large surpluses. If we do not promote our own agriculture, we will have to buy what other countries produce. The United States has big surpluses in storage, and it would be advantageous to sell them. However, this will also cause dependence. Obviously, the United States does not want us to produce our own food. [end recording]

GARCIA DENIES POOR SPAIN TIES; GREETS GONZALEZ

PY142306 Paris AFP in Spanish 1805 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Madrid, 13 Nov (AFP) -- Peruvian President Alan Garcia today reiterated his invitation to Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to pay an official visit to Peru. This occurred in a telephone conversation that the two politicians held during Garcia's stopover in Madrid.

According to Spanish Government spokesman Javier Solana, Garcia spoke with Gonzalez from the Madrid Airport, where he arrived from Rome for a technical stopover at 1330 (local time). Solana said that the telephone conversation was cordial and pleasant, and he explained that there was not enough time for a personal meeting.

Gonzalez conveyed to Garcia his desire to pay a visit to Peru and indicated that delegations from the two countries would organize the exact dates for the visit, according to Solana.

Garcia, who attended the 23d FAO Conference in Rome, held a brief, personal meeting with Spanish King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia at the airport.

Speaking from Rome today, Garcia said that there is no friction between the Peruvian and Spanish Governments; first, because the bonds between Peru and Spain are not only friendly, but also fraternal; second, because of Felipe Gonzalez' personality and his government's ideology; and third, because of the historical ties between Peru and Spain.

GARCIA RETURNS FROM ROME FAO CONFERENCE

PY141306 Paris AFP in Spanish 1003 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Lima, 14 Nov (AFP) -- Peruvian President Alan Garcia returned tonight [as received] to Lima after participating in the 23d FAO Assembly held in Rome. The Assembly opened on 11 November and President Garcia gave an important speech.

The Peruvian chief of state also visited Pope John Paul II and spoke with the chiefs of state who participated in the FAO meeting.

Garcia arrived in Lima at 0005 (0505 GMT on Thursday) in a plane that made a stopover in Madrid, where this morning the Peruvian president met with Spanish King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia, and where he also had a telephone conversation with Felipe Gonzalez, the prime minister of the Spanish Government. At Lima Airport he was met by Vice President Luis Alberto Sanchez, who acted as interim president during Garcia's 5-day absence, government members, and other personalities.

ARMY GENERAL POSITIONS TO BE REDUCED

PY141510 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] War Minister Jorge Flores Torres said that the number of vacant posts for Army brigadier generals and major generals will be reduced.

The 36 vacancies for those positions will be reduced by 50 percent, he said.

[Begin recording] [Flores Torres] The list that we will submit to Congress will include a reduction of the vacancies in the highest ranks.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, how many vacancies for generals will there be?

[Flores Torres] Well, there were 30 vacancies last year. This year there will be 16 vacancies for brigadier generals. As for major generals, last year there were six, and this year there will be four vacancies.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, does this decision fall under the scope of an austerity plan?

[Flores Torres] Yes, this decision follows an austerity plan which will not hinder the proper functioning of the Army. [end recording]

COLOMBIAN ACTION AGAINST AEROPERU MINIMIZED

PY1411629 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Through a note released to the press yesterday, the Ministry of Transport and Communications stated that the Colombian Government's decision to cancel the license granted to Aeroperu [Peruvian State Airlines] to cover the Bogota-Caracas-Bogota route affects neither the Peruvian Government nor Aeroperu.

As is known, following a decision by the Peruvian authorities to cancel the operation license of Avianca [Colombian National Airways], the Colombian Government took similar action.

According to officials from the Air Transport General Directorate of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, this situation will in no way affect Aeroperu. On the contrary, it will benefit the national airline.

IGLESIAS COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH PRC, CUBA

PY131236 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] Foreign Relations Minister Enrique Iglesias has denied that he will resign from his post. When asked about this matter, he replied that he has no intention of resigning from his current ministry.

During a press conference granted at Government House, Iglesias reported that high-level, important economic groups linked to exports in international markets will soon arrive in Montevideo to discuss new investment projects in Uruguay.

Regarding projects with South Korea, Iglesias said there is the possibility of a $20-million investment in the fishing field.

Commenting on the reestablishment of relations with the PRC, Iglesias said that this subject is being analyzed by the government. Our policy is to make a progressive rapprochement with the PRC and we are working calmly and without pause in this direction, which is not easy, the minister said.

He said that Cuba still has not approved Captain Pineirua as the Uruguayan ambassador to Havana. Pineirua is the father of National Party leader Analia Pineirua.

PARTIES REACH AGREEMENT ON BUDGET LAWS

PY141541 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Concrete bases of understanding have been attained between the Colorado Party and the National Party regarding the budget and refinancing. This was learned by Radio Carve after a meeting between the president of the republic and Senators Zumaran, Pereyra, Lacalle, and Ortiz. The meeting, called by President Sanguinetti, was held at the official residence in Suarez Avenue and lasted for 2 hours.

The traditional parties reportedly agreed on points which will make it possible for the budget, refinancing, and development corporation laws to be approved soon. In the next few hours, the economy minister will report to Congress on the technical details of the modifications which the government is willing to make, after having made its position more flexible, both in the budget and in the refinancing of debts.

ECUADORAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES, MEETS LUSINCHI

PA141605 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] The Central American crisis, the Andean Pact, commercial exchange, and current oil policy were the most important issues discussed today during the first meeting between Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero and Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi. Febres Cordero's visit to Venezuela is surrounded by great expectation. He represents a sister country forged by the same liberation struggle carried out by Simon Bolivar. Febres Cordero left Quito at 0900, after receiving the military honors due his position. He arrived at Maiquetia International Airport at 1145, 15 minutes ahead of schedule. The Ecuadoran Air Force 727 plane was immediately boarded by Ecuadoran Ambassador Galo Rico Mantilla and Maurice Ayiz Villega, Foreign Ministry protocol director.

In a warm embrace, President Lusinchi expressed the best feelings that the Venezuelan people have for the Ecuadoran people. It was a brotherly and friendly greeting of democrats. Later the two heads of state reviewed the military parade of the Venezuelan Navy on the east side of the airport. Once in the airport's main room, President Lusinchi, in a brief but warm speech, stressed Venezuela's and Ecuador's brotherly feeling and added that our country, the birthplace of Simon Bolivar and Antonio Jose de Sucre, welcomes the visit of this illustrious Latin American president.

[Begin Lusinchi recording] We are united in every way, and there is nothing to separate us. My words are not just out of courtesy. My words express the way Venezuela feels regarding your visit. Ecuador is our sister country in all circumstances and forever. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Febres Cordero could not conceal his feelings and stressed that our countries are united by indissoluble ties. He added that history, customs, and constant efforts for freedom and progress are aspects which prove the unity that exists between our two countries.

[Begin Febres Cordero recording] Mr President, you and your people have more right than anyone to be the recipient of the philosophy and greatness of Bolivar's soul. In what he represented for your country, the rest of America, and the world, we will find the way, hope, and our common destiny. [end recording]

In this way began intense activity on the part of President Febres Cordero, who will stay in our country on an official visit until Monday. He began his activities at the National Pantheon this afternoon. President Febres Cordero arrived at the National Pantheon to participate in his first public act in his visit to our country. He is accompanied by Foreign Minister Edgar Teran and Commerce Minister Xavier Neira. Febres Cordero placed a floral offering at the grave of Simon Bolivar and at the memorial of independence hero Antonio Jose de Sucre. There was a minute of silence in memory of Ecuadoran independence hero Leon de Febres Cordero.

From the National Pantheon President Febres Cordero went to Miraflores Palace for his first work session with President Lusinchi. The presidents met for the third time today. At 1700 Febres Cordero arrived at Miraflores Palace, on schedule, and President Lusinchi met him at the entrance. They immediately went into the president's office, where they began their meeting.

Febres Cordero was accompanied by the foreign minister, the commerce minister, and the Ecuadoran ambassador. Lusinchi was accompanied by the ministers of development, finance, energy and mines, and, of course, by the foreign minister. This first meeting lasted approximately 1 hour. It was already dark when the meeting ended.

Newsmen tried to interview Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi to try to obtain some information regarding the meeting between the presidents of Venezuela and Ecuador, but they did not obtain much information.

[Begin Consalvi recording] At the end of the visit of the Ecuadoran president, a joint declaration will be issued, among other documents, which will summarize the conversations and the agreements the two presidents have reached. [end recording]

In any event, we can report that the two presidents have talked about the Central American and the Contadora efforts for peace in the region, as well as the activities the two countries can carry out to obtain more stability and better prices in the international oil market, considering that Ecuador and Venezuela are oil producing countries and the only two American member countries of OPEC.

Meets Businessmen, Politicians

PA142152 Caracas Television] Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Report by Martin Pachecho]

[Text] On the 2d day of his visit to Venezuela, Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero's agenda has been quite full. In the morning he met with the Venezuelan petroleum sector headed by Hernan Anzola, deputy energy and mines ministers, and the board of directors of Venezuelan Petroleum including Brigido Natera, Pablo Reimpen, Juan Chasin, and Carlos Bojene Rincones.

Shortly afterward he met with a group of Venezuelan businessmen including Jose Alvarez Estelin, Gustavo Folmer, Eugenio Mendoza, and representatives of the National Banking Council and the National Industry Council.

Febres Cordero also met with former Venezuelan Presidents Carlos Andres Perez and Rafael Caldera, Rafael Marcial Garmendia, president of Fedecamaras [Venezuelan Federation of Associations and Chambers of Commerce and Industry], and the leadership of the Confederation of Venezuelan Workers.

The Ecuadoran president is now going to Narino House, where he will be greeted by the diplomatic corps accredited in Venezuela. In the afternoon he will visit the Andean Department Corporation and will meet separately with Democratic Action President Gonzalo Barrios and Secretary General Manuel Penalver; COPEI President Godofredo Gonzalez and Secretary General Eduardo Fernandez; and MAS [Movement Toward Socialism] President Pompeyo Marquez and Secretary General Freddy Munoz.

MINISTER NOTES POSSIBLE TIES WITH COLOMBIAN REBELS

PA141739 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Interior Minister Octavio Lepage has said that it cannot be ruled out that there are links between Colombian guerrillas and what's left of Venezuela's guerrillas.

He said that there is no indication that Venezuelans gave advice in the M-19 [19 April Movement] takeover of the Palace of Justice in Bogota. He added that the guerrillas who may still exist in Venezuela are numerically insignificant, and thus there should be no concern about that.

[Begin Lepage recording] I believe that, in any case, there is no reason for Venezuelans to harbor the fear that something similar may occur here. [end recording]

Finally, Minister Lepage said that there is no doubt about a link between Colombian drug traffickers and the guerrillas of that country. This is something that would not happen in Venezuela, because the guerrillas who still exist here wouldn't be in any condition to deal with drugs.

'UNITY' PREVAILS AT 7TH COMMUNIST CONGRESS

PA140213 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 29 Oct 85 p D-11

[By Nelson Rodriguez A.]

[Text] The Communists maintained their unity in their Seventh National Congress, negating predictions by political observers who said that there would be a split in the discussion of the election of a new secretary general.

Despite the fact that, just as in any political organization, the candidates for internal party posts prompted arguments among voters and sympathizers when the time came to cast their votes, unity prevailed over rivalries, and the experience of other congresses in which there was division was not repeated. The wish of important leaders to have more women elected to the Central Committee did not come true, despite the fact that 16 persons became new members, thus increasing the total number of members to 75 as a result of a reform of the statutes.

These new members include: Rafael Civira of Lara State; Jacobo Mora of Aragua; Manuel Martinez of Portuguesa; Jose Vicente Aguero of Portuguesa; Eurive Guevara of Monagas; Jose Vicente Medina of Bolivar; Nelson Gonzalez of Carabobo; and Jesus Carmona of Falcon.

In addition, Eduardo Gallegos Mancera, Trino Melean, Geronimo Carrera, Hector Mujica, Cruz Villegas, Ali Morales, Pedro Ortega Diaz, Jesus Farias, Americo Diaz Nunez, Jesus Cordero Giusti, Jorge Santana, Alonso Ojeda Olaechea, and Radames Larrazabal were confirmed as members of the Central Committee.

New contributions made by the congress can also be listed, among them the adoption of a new resolution creating the post of national secretary as an auxiliary organization of the leaders of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee. This will permit greater participation by cadres who will become experienced in the party's daily activities as a prelude to assuming other important leadership posts. This structure expands the actual leadership and the party's possibilities in the country's interior.

Another aspect the Communists viewed as important was an increase in the number of union and labor leaders present at the congress and in the Central Committee. One negative aspect was the concern expressed over the small increase in the women's presence.

Political parties, labor organizations, and neighborhood groups sent greetings in addition to those personally delivered by international delegates of more than 20 countries of Latin America, Europe, and Asia, including the presence of Gianni Giadresco, representative of the Italian Communist Party [PCI], member of its Central Committee and chief of the PCI's Immigration Section. The meeting also included the presence of a delegation from Laos who attended the Venezuelan Communist congress for the first time. This delegation was headed by Soukthavonne Keola, the Laotian ambassador to Cuba.

Other international delegates were from the Soviet Union, the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, the DPRK, Cuba, Colombia, Costa Rica, Argentina, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, and Guyana.

The various representatives of these delegations presented their greetings and reported on the problems they are facing in their respective countries at the development level, as well as in the search for peace due to the threat of war hanging over mankind, which is now the great concern of socialist and communist countries especially those that suffered the harshness of the two previous wars and feel that a new one, with nuclear characteristics, would destroy most, if not all, of humankind.

ANTINARCOTICS UNIT TO OPERATE IN ZULIA

PA080442 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1431 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Text] Caracas, 7 Nov (DPA) -- Venezuela's Armed Forces of National Cooperation has created an antinarcotics commando unit made up of 60 men, including soldiers and officers, in Zulia State, on the border with Colombia.

The commando unit is made up of personnel duly trained to locate drugs and drug traffickers.

In recent years huge marijuana and cocaine plantations as well as processing laboratories have been found along the Venezuelan-Colombian border.

FINANCIAL TIES AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH COSTA RICA

PA140427 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Today the Governments of Costa Rica and Mexico signed an agreement regulating financial relations. Mexican Finance and Public Credit Secretary Jesus Silva Herzog and Costa Rican Finance Minister Porfirio Morera Batres signed the agreement, whereby Costa Rica makes a payment of $4.6 million on its debt to Mexico.

BRITISH DIPLOMAT ON MEXICAN-UK TRADE BALANCE

FL142336 Mexico Cith NOTIMEX in Spanish 2000 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Mexico City, 14 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Derek Milton, counselor of the British Embassy in our country, has said the trade balance between Mexico and the United Kingdon was considerably reduced during this year's first 8 months, compared to the same period last year.

During a press conference at the embassy, the British official added that British exports to Mexico amounting to 121 million pounds sterling were made from January to August of this year, while Mexico's exports to the United Kingdom amounted to 168 million [pounds sterling].

During the same period last year exports between the two countries amoung to 150 million pounds sterling and 175 million, respectively.

Regarding Mexican-UK coinvestments, the head of the Birmingham delegation, Terry Sprake, reported that the company will offer multidisciplinary engineering for the development of natural resources and energy systems to affected schools and hospitals.

COMMERCE SECRETARY VIEWS JOINING GATT

PA140041 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 1955 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] Hector Hernandez Cervantes, commerce and industrial development secretary, appeared this morning before the Senate, where he said that the GATT's regulations guarantee Mexico's sovereignty over its natural resources. Hernandez Cervantes talked about the critical situation of the international economy, and he also explained what the consequences would be if Mexico were to join the GATT.

He answered all the senators' questions about the country's sovereignty if Mexico were to join the GATT. Hernandez Cervantes said that the Mexican Constitution has clear provisions limiting the extent of our international negotiations.

He said that this is the moment to decide what are we willing to give and what we expect from abroad. Hernandez Cervantes explained that in every international agreement one has to make concessions to receive benefits.

Regarding the U.S. protectionist policy, Hernandez Cervantes said that the United States is willing to revise its policy so as not to hurt developing countries.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY ADMITS ILLEGAL PRACTICES

PA092001 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Nov 85 p 6

[Article by Manuel Ponce]

[Excerpt] Besieged by severe questioning from legislators for nearly 4 hours, Victoria Adato de Ibarra, district attorney for the Federal District, has admitted that her organization practices torture, commits excesses, and infringes on constitutional rights.

She admitted that agents of that organization carry out arrests without corresponding warrants and said that a clean-up of the Federal District's Judicial Police will take some time, "because changes cannot be made overnight."

However, she stressed that the District Attorney's Office does not foster or condone these illegal practices, as they not only hurt society's interests but also distort the objective of obtaining justice. She demanded that instead of complaints, specific reports be presented so that they can be investigated and the guilty punished.

The district attorney for the Federal District told the Justice Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, chaired by Deputy Fernando Baeza Melendez, that for this reason an unspecified number of judicial policemen have been dismissed, or, if warranted, prosecuted.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS DETAINED, 'MISTREATED'

PA142349 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 11 Nov 85 p 28

[By Angel Martinez]

[Excerpt] Hermosillo, Sonora, 10 Nov -- Some 200 Central Americans who entered our country illegally trying to reach the United States are currently being detained in an old building that houses the municipal DIF [System for Complete Family Development] office. They tell of mistreatment and theft at the hands of individuals who rob them of the little money they saved before fleeing their countries of origin, where they have even been threatened with death.

Interviewed by EL UNIVERSAL, several of these illegal immigrants charged that here in Mexico they are mistreated and humiliated by both civilians and immigration agents, who, in addition to robbing them of their money and belongings, keep them locked up under subhuman conditions, feeding them with "the leftovers" of inmates in Mexican jails.

The group of illegal immigrants includes men, women, and children. No one receives special treatment, as minors are treated almost the same as adults.

Most of these immigrants are from Guatemala and El Salvador. They came fleeing the fratricidal war being waged in their countries, but in their search for a better life they face mistreatment in a country where they thought "we could be considered brothers."

REGIONS MOUNT SPECIAL ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGNS

FL121912 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2203 GMT 11 Nov 85

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- In the state of Veracruz the attorney general's office will establish a special system for combatting drug traffickers and growers. According to an official spokesman, this special system will be manned by 40 members of the Federal Judicial Police and a team of land vehicles supported by 18 helicopters and a considerable number of Mexican soldiers.

The bases for the operation will be located in the cities of Jalapa and Minatitlan, which are in the state of Veracruz, on the Gulf of Mexico. The entire operation to eradicate both crops and drug traffickers will be run from these bases.

The operation will last as long as necessary and will be concurrent with the "Pacific-5" operation, which is taking place in the Mexican states of Oaxaca, Jalisco, and Michoacan.

AIRPLANE BOMB THREAT MENTIONS CARO QUINTERO

FL150103 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2326 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Hermosillo, Mexico, 14 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Three anonymous phone calls have mobilized security and Army forces in this northern Mexican city because of a bomb threat against a Mexico City-Guadalajara-Hermosillo-Mexicali domestic flight. The annonymous calls received at the local Ignacio Pesqueira Airport mentioned drug smugglers Rafael Caro Quintero and his subordinate Jose Contreras Zubias. The former is in a Mexico City prison and the latter in a Tijuana jail.

The calls, originating in Mexicali, were received between eight and nine in the morning today, said a bomb would go off in the plane carrying 40 passengers at 1035. A federal judicial police officer said the message received at the airport said the following: We do not want innocent people to die. Leave Caro Quintero and Zubias alone.

The plane landed around 1035 at the Hermosillo Airport. It did not approach the gate but remained on the runway, where passengers quickly got off.

After a reasonable period of time, airport security personnel, members of emergency services, and the Mexican Army boarded the plane and searched it, but did not find a bomb.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON COLOMBIAN INCIDENT

PA132333 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 13 Nov 85 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Communique issued by Guillermo Antonio Adames, press and information secretary of the Presidency, on 12 November in Panama City]

[Text] I hereby report that President of the Republic Eric Arturo Delvalle expressed by telephone his feelings and sorrow to Belisario Betancur, president of the Republic of Colombia, over the regrettable incidents carried out by the 19 April Movement (M-19) in Bogota, as a result of uncontrolled violent actions, for which Colombia mourns today the loss of almost 100 of its sons, among them Dr Alfonso Reyes Echandia, pride of Colombia's Supreme Court.

On expressing his solidarity with the Colombian president and people in this moment of sorrow, the president of Panama reiterates his decision to prevent all possibility of violence coming to our country and to safeguard the maintenance of peace as an invaluable asset of the Panamanian nation.

Guillermo Antonio Adames

DETAINEE'S RELATIVES PROTEST AT U.S. EMBASSY

PA141645 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Nov 85 p 1-A

[Article by Lisette Carrasco]

[Text] Relatives and friends of Jose Alberto de la Guardia, who was arrested by the U.S. security service and handed over to the Defense Forces of Panama, have held a peaceful demonstration at the U.S. Embassy in Panama City to demand "justice," and delivered a letter to Ambassador Everett Ellis Briggs.

In the letter, De la Guardia's relatives stated their "vigorous protest over the joint operation carried out on 7 November by members of the U.S. Army Intelligence Service and the National Department of Investigations of Panama [DENI], which resulted in the arbitrary arrest of Jose Alberto de la Guardia."

The relatives and friends of the arrested man ask Ambassador Briggs "whether or not these joint maneuvers to persecute the political adversaries of the Panamanian Government are supported by any clause of the Torrijos-Carter Treaty, or if such an operation represents his government's interpretation of said treaty."

The letter adds: "Our protest is more emphatic because we want to inform you that the U.S. Army intelligence service arrested our relative in a brutal way, beating him, without having an arrest warrant, took him out of his office, and then handed him over to the Panamanian authorities."

De la Guardia's relatives state that they are "absolutely sure that your embassy already knows the consequences of the shameful and ridiculous operation of the U.S. Army security service," pointed out that "DENI in Panama took advantage of the initiative of your Army's secret service to accuse our relative and his party, Peoples Action Party [PAPO], which struggles for democratization in Panama, of planning a revolution in Panama with arms obtained from U.S. Army military bases."

They deem the case of Jose Alberto de la Guardia a "stupid fabrication" of the Defense Forces of Panama that "insults our people's intelligence and that has been carried out by individuals committed to lies and to dictatorship."

De la Guardia Freed on Bail

PA141647 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 14 Nov 85 p 24

[Text] Luis Alberto de La Guardia, a leader of PAPO, was freed yesterday afternoon after his lawyers paid $2,500 bail, set by the 8th Circuit Criminal Court judge.

Questioned outside the Modelo jail, De La Guardia said that "my stay in the center was long and difficult" and that he "was tired and wanted to be reunited with his family."

Meanwhile, his lawyer, Luis Guillermo Zuniga, emphasized that once again truth has prevailed over lies. Neverthless, he charged that the majority of the Supreme Court of Justice obeys the orders of the garrisons and is subordinate to the will of the military leadership, and that is why it rejected the habeas corpus writ filed last week.

Zuniga also said that the court has to yet to determine the nature of the crime that De la Guardia will be charged with, so the file will be turned over to the 8th District Attorney's Office in Ancon to decide if there are sufficient grounds in the evidence provided by DENI against the young politician.

BELIZE

BUSINESSMAN ACCUSES U.S. GOVERNMENT OF ENTRAPMENT

FL122215 Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 10 Nov 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] In a letter to the editor published elsewhere in this issue Michael Zabaneh, a young businessman/citrus farmer of Dangriga, has accused the Drug Enforcement Agency of the U.S. Government of using "all kinds of underhand and illegal methods tring to entrap me and my family." Zabaneh further charges the U.S. authorities with holding his common-law wife Roselia Fajardo "a hostage". She has been kept in custody without bail in a New Orleans jail since March.

In a sensational outburst, the letter also fingers certain named DEA agents who have been posing in Belize as drug merchants. Mr Zabaneh claims that his telephone has been tapped (bugged -- i.e., that the police are listening in on his conversations) and that the British telecommunications multi-national compnay Cable and Wireless Limited has been providing copies of his overseas telephone toll calls to the U.S. authorities. these are very very serious charges!

COSTA RICA

MONGE REQUESTS REGION DISCUSSION AT GENEVA

PA091849 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1244 GMT 9 Nov 85

[Text] San Jose, 9 Nov (REUTER) Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has asked that the Central American situation be one of the topics included in the agenda of the summit conference that will be held by President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva. Monge made the request during the meeting he held yesterday in San Jose with John Whitehead, deputy secretary of state, and Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

We have said that if the United States makes concrete its proposal that the various topics of world crisis be discussed in the 19 and 20 November meeting, we would support having the Central American problem analyzed at that level, Monge said.

Whitehead arrived in Costa Rica yesterday to evaluate the Central American situation and the development of the peace efforts that the Contadora Group has been carrying out for the past 3 years. The high-ranking official said that the meeting with Monge dealt with the Central American situation and "the threats of Sandinism" in the region, in a reference to the leftist Nicaraguan Government.

EL SALVADOR

FMLN CLAIMS AIR FORCE HELICOPTER HIT 10 NOVEMBER

PA142136 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] Attention, attention, Salvadoran people, we have important information from the Anastasio Aquino Front, so pay attention. Our companeros have sent us a war report in which they tell us that one of [Colonel Juan Rafael] Bustillo's Air Force helicopters has been damaged.

Attention, we have the following important war report from the land of the Nonualcos: On 10 November, at 1140, guerrilla units of the FMLN's Luis Adalberto Diaz Detachment clashed with troops of the 5th Infantry Battalion's oft-beaten Tehuacan Battalion, between the road leading to El Tortuguero and Cerro Catarinita. In this clash we inflicted two wounded on the oft-beaten Tehuacan Battalion's troops.

Later on, and listen closely to this, an Air Force helicopter arrived to evacuate the two wounded. When the helicopter was withdrawing from the zone it fell into an ambush we had prepared for it. Our fighers opened fire with their antiaircraft weapons and the helicopter was forced to withdraw out of control. Our companeros report that they saw smoke coming out of the damaged helicopter, due to the impact of our guerrilla bullets.

FOREIGN MINISTER'S TRIP TO EUROPE VIEWED

PA140302 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] Directly from the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry we have portions of the news conference by Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta, who talked about the works carried out by the Foreign Ministry, particularly the work carried out by Rodolfo Castillo Claramount, vice president and foreign minister. Here are portions of that news conference:

[Begin recording] [Acevedo] Thanks, greetings to the Salvadoran people on this beautiful summer day. I am going to refer to the importance of the foreign minister's trip to Europe. This trip is part of an information campaign regarding the democratic process taking place in El Salvador. Part of this campaign was the president of the Republic's trip to Spain, where, in direct contact with the socialist government of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, we were able to present our political plan in an interesting manner, which was well received by the Spanish authorities.

The foreign minister is doing the same in Europe. He has signed the cooperation agreement between the EEC and the Central American countries, which is a historical milestone in relations between the two regions. He is also trying to improve the bad image they have in Europe of the Salvadoran political process. There is a big contrast with what he is trying to do and the intense propaganda campaign carried out by Nicaragua in Europe, in which they criticize us and attack our democratic system. Therefore, the foreign minister's trip is important, as Europe must know more about the Salvadoran Government's views on peace, justice, and democracy.

[Question] There are reports of the signing of an agreement for approximately $100 million. What are you going to use this money for?

[Acevedo] The amount of the aid is approximately $100 million, to begin with. It will depend on what the commissions decide is needed in Central America. This is just an initial aid. It will be a guideline, and the amount of the aid could be much more than $100 million, as the needs are submitted by the governments.

[Question] We want to know your opinion regarding Nicaragua's position regarding the Contadora plan? How will it stand now that Nicaragua has rejected it?

[Acevedo] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's recent statement rejecting the Contadora plan, which was submitted on 13 September 1985, to the Central American countries, clearly proves that Nicaragua has no political desire to accept the Contadora plan and that it has acted in an irresponsible manner in the negotiations with the other Central American countries.

The plan was drafted in September 1985 together with Nicaragua. The Central American countries drafted the plan, not the Contadora Group. The fact that Nicaragua took part in discussing and drafting the document and to say after 1 year of negotiations that it does not accept it is an insult to the serious work done by the other Central American countries in drafting this new plan. As long as Nicaragua does not change its attitude, which clearly shows a lack of political will, we are wasting our time in the Contadora process. It is time that the Contadora Group and the EEC realize, now that Daniel Ortega has rejected the plan, that neither the Salvadorans nor the Hondurans are the ones blocking the Contadora process. The ones obstructing the process are the Nicaraguans.

[Question] To finish this interview, you recall that President Jose Napoleon Duarte made some statements at the airport regarding the scandal about the diplomatic pouch that was used to carry FMLN documents. What do you have to say about this?

[Acevedo] The Spanish news media did refer to the use of the Spanish diplomatic pouch to carry FMLN documents. This was an unconfirmed rumor. The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry did not know of any report nor diplomatic incident that could have hurt relations between the two countries. The diplomatic pouch has diplomatic immunity, just as the diplomatic personnel. We cannot do anything to hurt our good relations with Spain just on the basis of rumors.

[Question] Could you tell us the reason for the recall of the Spanish ambassador following the diplomatic pouch incident?

[Acevedo] As I said before, we do not have an official report in relation to this problem. I think that he was recalled because of the rotation of diplomatic personnel, and it does not have to do with the diplomatic pouch incident. I think these rumors should cease, because we do not have an official report to indicate that he was recalled for any other reason than the rotation of personnel. [end recording]

GUATEMALA

ARMY OFFICIAL REPORTS RECENT CLASHES WITH REBELS

PA090326 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 8 Nov 85

[Text] In Guatemala, there was no halt to the guerrilla's activities in the countryside during the elections. Marco Antonio Castellanos, the military spokesman reported on clashes that took place before and after 3 November:

[Begin Castellanos recording] Ten days ago, a communique was issued, chronologically listing clashes between the Army and the terrorists who tried to hinder the normal development of the elections; fortunately, they could not fulfill that objective.

On 1 November, at 1020, a military patrol clashed with terrorists trying to enter the [name indistinct] village, Nebaj municipality, Quiche Department. One soldier and one terrorist were killed.

On 2 November, at 2315, at the Santa Maria de Jesus Power Plant, Retalhuleu Department, a group of terrorists were repelled by the security guards of the plant. It was feared that the plant would be left out of service or control and would fail to continue to supply such an important service to the population, fortunately however, they were repelled, and their action was neutralized.

During an armed clash with terrorists, who are being pursued by a military patrol, in [names indistinct], Quiche Department, six soldiers and one terrorist were killed. In Peten Department, on 30 October, at 2100, terrorists tried to enter El Tamarindo, [name indistinct] municipality to intimidate the population. They were repelled by a military patrol and a civil defense patrol. [end recording]

ANDRADE ON FOREIGN POLICY, GUERRILLA PROBLEM

PA140341 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 6 Nov 85 p 19

[By correspondent Alberto Carbo; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Nov -- Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran told this reporter:

"I do not wish to speculate on my country's future stance concerning the Central American problems, particularly regarding the Contadora Group's negotiating process. However, I can tell you that Guatemala's foreign policy during the past 2 years has been independent, responsible, with its own profile, and clear. We believe that the Contadora Group is the only Latin American solution available for the Central American countries. However, despite the admirable efforts undertaken by this group for the past 3 years, there are still some who want to settle the conflict with violent methods."

His attitude is serene. The look in his eyes is deep. One can see that his position as one of the few civilians in the military government structure is comfortable. He is Contadora in Guatemala. Some have even said that he is the only minister whom General Mejia Victores pays attention to. It is said that many of the important foreign policy guidelines are his initiative. Guatemala has been mentioned as the country where individual rights are respected the least. His reply is straightforward:

"Guatemala is a country that has faced violence from subversive groups and also from dominant sectors. In fact, during the past 25 years we Guatemalans have been subject to a number of adverse circumstances on the subject of human rights. We admit it. However, I believe that the government of General Mejia Victores is still seeking peaceful solutions. Proof of this is that the level of violence has dropped significantly, although it has not totally disappeared, I must be frank.

"We still have a long road ahead concerning human rights. I believe that last Sunday's election was the first step toward a national reconciliation. It has also paved the way for political participation. We are deeply convinced that numerous socialists who lived abroad -- precisely because of the violence you have just mentioned -- have returned to Guatemala. I favor normal coexistence, and tolerance toward the dissident groups."

According to the Guatemala foreign minister, the Mutual Support Group [GAM] -- whose members occupied the Metropolitan Cathedral for 5 days -- is worthy of respect for its struggle to clarify political disappearances. I share and respect their demands, but I also sympathize with any group of persons who are rightfully trying to obtain information about their missing relatives or friends," he said.

He added: "However, the GAM is not the only human rights group, and does not represent the country. I must stress that the government has tried to collaborate with them. However, we cannot ignore the fact that violence in Guatemala for many years produced dead and also missing persons.

"The same thing happened in Argentina and other Latin American countries. We even experienced the beginning of a civil war here; that is the truth. The same thing is happening in El Salvador and Nicaragua."

Is it possible that with the arrival of a democratic government next year the military men charged with violating human rights may be prosecuted as is currently happening in Argentina?

Baffled, he took a deep breath, joined his hands, and looked down. Then he replied:

"Of course, the similarities and differences between Argentina and Guatemala give us a different approach to the problem. Here in our country we have suffered the effects of subversion for many years.

The guerrilla movements in Guatemala are one topic of our conversation. Andrade Diaz-Duran said that the guerrillas "have lost their military capacity, because they have been defeated.

He quickly clarifies: "However, this does not mean that there are no groups in El Peten, in the northern part of El Quiche, and a few in San Marcos. There are some small bands, but not guerrilla groups, controlling territory. They resort to terrorist practices and have been successful in dealing 'effective blows' to attract attention. I would say that this is the only way the guerrillas can get attention. We must also admit that they have an informative and propagandistic network -- very effective indeed -- to promote themselves abroad. I must say with all respect, that they are very efficient. They have offices financed from abroad, very well mounted indeed. In sum, we want the guerrillas to join the national political life."

NICARAGUA

PROTEST SENT TO HONDURAS ON TEACHERS' 'MURDER'

PA150412 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0308 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Our government has sent a protest note to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, requesting an explanation of the murder of several members of the 50th Anniversary Educational Brigade by the counterrevolutionary bands. The note, signed by Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga, is based on the statements made by Maria Mercedes Rivas Obregon, a teacher who managed to escape from her kidnappers who held her at the counterrevolutionary military base of Las Vegas, in Honduran territory.

The Nicaraguan Government demands the repatriation of the remainder of young members of the educational brigade and other citizens who are held kidnapped in Honduran territory, and it urgently requests that they be protected.

LA PRENSA REPORTER DETAINED BY AUTHORITIES

PA112115 Paris AFP in Spanish 1501 GMT 11 Nov 85

[Text] Managua, 11 Nov (AFP) -- LA PRENSA newspaper sources charged in Nicaragua today that Sandinist authorities detained Norman Talavera, a journalist who works for this opposition newspaper, on Sunday. The sources, who asked not to be identified, have reported that Talavera was detained last night at his Managua home by three military men and three plainclothesmen.

The sources indicated: "We don't know the reason for his arrest." They also said that Talavera was in charge of covering religious sources, including the Catholic Church hierarchy, who oppose Sandinism. According to unofficial reports, authorities seized personal letters and a copy of the weekly IGLESIA from Talavera. The first issue of the weekly could not be published due to security authorities' actions.

So far, the Sandinist authorities have not reported on the cause for Talavera's detention. He is the third LA PRENSA journalist detained in the last 2 years. One of them, Luis Mora, former president of the LA PRENSA union of workers and former correspondent of the Costa Rican anti-Sandinist radio station Radio Impacto, is still detained. He was charged with collaborating with the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, led by Eden Pastora.

POLICE SUMMON 10 PRIESTS, ISSUE WARNING

PA090450 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2359 GMT 8 Nov 85

[Text] Managua, 8 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The local archiepiscopal curia has reported that 10 Catholic priests were summoned today before police authorities and warned not to "discuss political issues" during their homilies. The clergymen of the Managua archdiocese appeared before the police office in this capital known as "Palo Alto," located in the "Altagracia" neighborhood, said Msgr Bismarck Carballo, spokesman for the archiepiscopal curia.

The religious source said that the priests were photographed, had their fingerprints taken, and were "put on record." Msgr Carballo said that "the summons of the priests is a way to intimidate the church's evangelical mission." The prelate said that Julio Anaya, a Salvadoran technician who was serving the Catholic Church, was expelled to his country by Sandinist authorities today.

Curia Denounces Attacks

PA092200 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1748 GMT 9 Nov 85

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 9 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The Curia Archbishopric of Managua denounced today that the "attacks" by the Sandinist Government against the Catholic Church "have continued with more intensity."

In the past weeks, the Catholic Church of Nicaragua has been the object of diverse "attacks" on the part of the Sandinist authorities, stated a declaration by the curia, signed by Msgr Bosco Vivas Robelo, auxiliary bishop of Managua.

"These facts have consisted of intimidations of priests, raids, interventions on church property, and threats and pressures on laymen in ecclesiastic posts," Msgr Vivas Robelo added. According to the curia of Managua, "these attacks, far from ceasing, have increased in intensity."

The charge by the curia comes one day after Managua police authorities summoned 10 Catholic priests to warn them "not to broach political topics when giving their homilies." An ecclesiastic source told ACAN-EFE that the priests of the Managua archdiocese had their photographs and fingerprints taken, and they were "put on the record" at the Palo Alto Police station.

The church, faithful to the mission of the founder, is committed to building the kingdom of God and to serving all without distinction, the source added.

"The church," the curia stated, "always seeks the truth, which it must convey to the others. It does not ever sell or dissimulate the trust just to please men, cause alarm, be original, or pretend to be what it is not."

Msgr Vivas Robelo, auxiliary bishop of Managua and general vicar general of the Managua archdiocese, invited the parishioners to be "alert to any maneuver to discredit his church."

"We ask for your prayers so that the good Lord will illuminate us, and we may overcome the difficult moments we are experiencing," the prelate said.

A source for the Archbishopric of Managua informed that Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo will leave for Europe next week to participate in the council and synod to be held in Rome. Among the topics to be discussed by the council composed of 70 cardinals, including Obando y Bravo, is the world situation of the church. Obando y Bravo will also attend the meeting of the synod as president of the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua.

BORGE INTERVIEWED ON STATE OF EMERGENCY

PM121135 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 26 Oct 85 p 4

[Interview with Interior Minister Tomas Borge by Jose Comas 24 October in Managua]

[Text] Managua -- Nicaraguan Minister of the Interior Tomas Borge believes that the vast majority of Nicaraguans are not worried about the state of emergency but even feel "better protected." He is of the opinion that Cardinal Obando's mission is no longer religious but political, and compares him with Ronald Reagan. He fears that the economic crisis will be lengthy and, in any event, that "our enemies will end up dead if they attempt to overthrow us."

Question: Is Sandinism in such deep water that it needs the extension of the state of emergency?

Answer: The last time I saw a boxing match, one of the contenders began to put his opponent in a bad way, and at that very instant a rain of blows fell on the man who was in a bad way which finally floored him.

The revolution has struck the enemy, has prevented an internal front from being formed in the cities, and is simply acting like that boxer to eliminate him. I believe that the state of emergency, which is not a state of siege, does not involved a curfew; it is just a prophylactic measure to prevent a revival of the counterrevolutionary activity which has been to some extent, or to a large extent, neutralized. The fact is that there are specific plans to send 2,500 men into the country, just as there are also specific plans to revive conspiratorial activity.

Question: Does all this compensate for the political cost of this operation, both international, with loss of image, and domestic, since I do not believe that the Nicaraguan people like that business of "long live chains" [allusion unknown]?

Answer: Domestically, there is no political cost. Externally, there is. You can walk on the streets by day or by night, the population is moving about normally, traffic is in full swing, there is free movement between the cities..., to such an extent that, as many Nicaraguans say: "He who does not owe it does not fear it." The vast majority of Nicaraguans not only agree with the state of emergency but feel protected. Only a very minor sector, connected with counterrevolutionary activities, may feel worried. The state of emergency represents not a chaining but rather a protection.

Question: During the Spanish Civil War, the dilemma of "war or revolution" arose, and there are those who argue that the war was lost through not carrying out the revolution. Could the war in Nicaragua be lost through taking away freedoms from the people and losing popular support?

Answer: I wish to emphasize that the people have not been limited in their freedoms. Here there is freedom of assembly, freedom to enjoy oneself, to work, and to express ideas and criticisms, absolute religious freedom, and even freedom for the political sectors opposed to the revolution, which have had no restrictions except those laid down by the provisions of the emergency law, which requires prior application and authorization to conduct political activities. But if the somewhat Manichaean image is created that the emergency law limits the people's freedoms, of course that would mean inhibiting mass support. But, on the contrary, the emergency law has been widely supported by the people and does not limit the people's freedoms at all; rather, it is a shield which protects them.

Political Cardinal

Question: There is an internal ideological front in Nicaragua. There is a cardinal who moves around the country and achieves large mass mobilizations, and whom BARRICADA (the Sandinist official organ) places on the same level as Reagan and the contras.

Answer: At least ideologically, from the viewpoint of his political pronouncements, if a Siamese twin of Ronald Reagan must be found, it is Miguel Obando. He is a political opponent of the revolution. A man who was recently appointed cardinal and....

Question: ...That was a favor which the pope did you, probably because of the reception you gave him.

Answer: Yes.... I believe that the history of the revolution in Nicaragua made it possible for a cardinal to exist here.

If the revolution had not triumphed in Nicaragua, Monsignor Obando would be an obscure bishop of a small city, or maybe, at best, of Managua. In any event, Monsignor Miguel Obando, unfortunately for us, is not a religious leader but a political leader who has been described by the Voice of America as the main opponent of the revolution's policy. Reagan and Obando take the same political and ideological line.

Question: How long are you going to allow this "Siamese twin of Reagan" to move about and preach freely?

Answer: Owing to the particular circumstances of this country, where there has been traditional respect for priests, and no priest has been detained by the revolution, we will seek to neutralize in the political and ideological field the political activity of Monsignor Miguel Obando, who is our opponent in the political and ideological field. I can see no possibility of his being coerced either in his movements or in his freedom. It would be neither correct, nor opportune, nor sensible.

Question: Does not a Cardinal Wyazynski affair seem conceivable to you here in Managua?

Answer: No, I do not believe so.... Moreover, Polish Cardinal Wyszynski was a more intelligent man than Obando, despite everything.

Opposition Politicians

Question: Over the past few days, several right-wing opposition politicians have been summoned to the General Directorate of State Security and subjected to treatment which I would describe as degrading -- locked up in a dark room and fingerprinted. Was this really necessary?

Answer: They were taken to a place where they were photographed. I assume, their details were taken down, and they were fingerprinted, which is what happens with people who are warned about a possible inclination toward lawbreaking activity. If they were put temporarily in some cell, I am unaware of it, but that happens anywhere in the world. When I learned that they had been detained, I said that they should be released, because the measure of detaining them seemed to me excessive. I believe that they must have been simply warned about the illegality of what they were doing, because it is preferable to have a certain degree of patience and flexibility in these cases. And by the way, I never complained when they were silent in the days of Somoza. I was handcuffed and hooded for 9 months, and I never sniveled as much as these people are sniveling about a few hours' detention.

Question: Some other people who are complaining are those whom you call "the extreme left", Marxist-Leninist trade unions, which are criticizing the state of emergency measure more or less harshly, because, among other things, you have suppressed the right to strike. How can the workers' rights be defended yet the right to strike be taken away from them?

Answer: Out of ideological convictions and revolutionary awareness, the workers here have never gone on strike. Nevertheless, there are small groups which claim to be left-wing and Marxist-Leninist and which take advantage -- opportunistically, in my opinion -- of the country's economic limitations to push some not very large sections of the working class toward making demands.

In a country full of poverty and beset by economic crisis and aggression, it is very easy to go and seek support to swell one's ranks by urging a section of the workers to demand better living conditions, when, objectively, the revolution cannot give them better living conditions. Instead of boosting support for the attacked revolution, what those allegedly left-wing gentlemen are doing is sabotaging the revolution by identifying themselves objectively with right-wing stances. These elements, which never had the fortitude or the courage to face up resolutely to Somoza, are indeed now challenging us.

Question: The economic situation is delicate. There is talk of a subsistence economy and a war economy. Nicaragua's exports are worth about $300 million and its imports about $1 billion. Let us set aside the foreign debt, but the situation is quite....

Answer: ...Tragic....

Question: Is this state of emergency aimed perhaps at possible disorders which might occur?

Answer: No, not at all. That possibility does not exist. The admirable thing about this people is that, despite so many difficulties, they still support the revolution so fervently and confidently. We are not afraid in this respect, since I am never going to use the police to confront the population. Never.

Question: How do you intend to resolve the economic crisis suffered by your country?

Answer: There is no solution to this crisis. We will live for a few more years beset by poverty, enormous difficulties, and great limitations. Over half the country's few resources -- the country's very few resources -- are currently earmarked for the war, and real output has fallen considerably: To such an extent that, if we compare the 1979 production figures with the current figures, there has been quite a sharp fall in real output. Of course, we are not taking into account the unequal trade, the international economic crisis, and the aggression. It is a very difficult situation. We are in no position to resolve it. There will be an economic crisis. In Nicaragua there will be poverty, more poverty, and more difficulties in the future.

Dead Enemies

Question: Another of the interpretations put forward over the past few days was that the state of the emergency was used as a negotiating basis in regard to the United Nations. It is even said that it was a kind of repetition of the seizure of Somoza's National Palace. On this occasion, the whole country was taken hostage in order to negotiate with the United Nations and say: "We will withdraw the state of emergency if they stop attacking us."

Answer: That is a bold and, at the same time, unfair image. Maybe it is very difficult for people to realize that it is the Nicaraguan people who have taken power here. This revolution is not against the people; it is a revolution by the people.

Question: In a recent interview you said that "ours is an intricate and complex blueprint, and intricate blueprints confuse the masses." Logically, that confusion should be reduced. Is it possible that this state of emergency forms part of a kind of redefinition within the Front's leadership?

Answer: No.

Question: Of ideological clarification?

Answer: Maybe of political and ideological clarification, if you like, but not a redefinition of the blueprint. Maybe a number of aspects of the revolution which have not been sufficiently explained need to be explained more simply and more fully to our people. For instance, this country's employers have a generally hostile attitude toward the revolution. They also have it from the viewpoint of their participation in the production process.

Question: Chilean President Salvador Allende said on one occasion that he would not be taken alive from the La Moneda Palace, that he would never hand over power. Could this remark also be applied to the Sandinistas?

Answer: Not exactly, because the government in Chile was always on the knife-edge. The social forces traditionally dominant in Chile retained the state's coercive apparatus. In Nicaragua this has not happened. There are new coercive apparatuses which are in the people's hands, in the revolutionaries' hands, and what happened in Chile can never happen. In any event, Allende heroically gave his life for the Chilean people and said that he would not be taken alive from the La Moneda Palace. We say that our enemies will end up dead if they attempt to overthrow us.

COMMENTARY DENOUNCES FOREIGN 'RADIO SIEGE'

PA131959 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Commentary by Onofre Guevara: "Analysis of Misinformation"]

[Text] Our country is suffering a radio siege that experts in radio information -- in this case of radio misinformation -- believe has as malicious an intent against our revolution's image as imperialism's armed mercenary aggression. One of those experts, Howard Frederick, has published a study on this topic which was summarized in the 11 November issue of BARRICADA. From it, we can obtain some data about the misinformation bombardment that daily hits our country.

He begins by pointing out that in addition to Voz de Nicaragua and Radio Sandino, Nicaragua has only 15 radio stations that form part of Coradep [People's Radio Broadcasting Corporation] compared to the 76 radio stations that come from abroad, most of which broadcast a counterrevolutionary and anti-Nicaraguan message.

To give us an idea, we find that 18 radio stations penetrate from Honduras and 26 radio stations from Costa Rica. Those countries are the main bases of the counterrevolution. If to these we add four from El Salvador, five from Guatemala, and the repeater of the so-called Voice of America, VOA, we can imagine the dimensions of the radio war against Nicaragua.

Frederick points out three main ideas used by the foreign radio stations in their war against Nicaragua: 1) The penetration of values alien to Nicaraguan revolutionary society; 2) The economic messages that clash with the principles upheld by the Sandinist people's revolution; and 3) The general anti-Sandinist and pro-counterrevolutionary ideological line.

In this regard, Frederick gives the following examples of the commercial propaganda that has political objectives and that is broadcast by the neighboring stations, including small and big stations. Open quote, Radio Valle is typical of the small stations that enter the Nicaraguan radio airwaves from Choluteca, Honduras, end quote. Commercial advertisements predominate in the nonmusical section of the broadcast and they are aimed at showing: Open quote, That life can be better abroad, end quote. Frederick adds: Open quote, The real super stations of commercialism serve as a market thermometer and as promoters of the capitalist elite. For example, the afternoon newscast of Radio Columbia of Costa Rica includes reports on the foreign capital stock market, bank advertisements offering loans, offers for trips to Miami, and other elements whose content is ruled by the market, end quote.

Frederick believes the following: Open quote, The clearest example of obvious disinformation was shown by HRN Voz de Honduras on 4 July 1985 when it broadcast the following report during a commentary program in the morning: We interrupt this program with the latest news. Attention friends of HRN throughout the country. The Nicaraguan People's Army is right now bombing the town of Aluaca. The bombing began at 0700 in the town on the border with Nicaragua. We report that a large number of townspeople have left their homes. For this reason, Aluaca, which has about 1,500 residents, is being left uninhabited. A large number of people have arrived in El Paraiso and in other towns of the area. We must state that this is another violation of our country's integrity by the Nicaraguan Army, end quote.

We can imagine all the hullabaloo the station raised to get across its lies to the Honduran people, especially since it knew it was a prefabricated incident, because, as Frederick points out: Open quote, The foreign correspondents were already in the field interviewing the witnesses at the time when the alleged attack took place, end quote.

Everything is well coordinated, massive, strident, and calculated in this war of the airwaves. If the words of disinformation were bullets, the Costa Rican and the Honduran people would already be dead. They are the first victims.

ARDE REPORTS 600 EPS CASUALTIES SINCE 26 OCTOBER

PA141631 Paris AFP in Spanish 0437 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] San Jose, 13 Nov (AFP) -- The anti-Sandinist Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) today reported that it has inflicted more than 600 casualties on the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) during an offensive that began on 26 October in central Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan group, which is led by Eden Pastora, the well-known "Commander Cero," stated in a communique released in San Jose, where it has its main propaganda offices, that the objective of the offensive is to "liberate new territories in the areas of Chontales and El Rama." According to the communique, Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega acknowledged the actions that ARDE is carrying out in the central region when he reported on Tuesday the death of 30 militiamen in battles near the town of El Rama, 240 km from Managua.

ARDE indicated that the fighting took place when the anti-Sandinist guerrillas surrounded EPS troops and militias guarding an arms shipment going to Managua. The Nicaraguan rebel organization said that the battle left 58 dead, 30 of them militiamen and the rest EPS members, and 63 wounded. It also reported another clash that took place a few days ago when the rebels ambushed an Army column near El Rama, leaving 16 dead in the government ranks.

140 CONTRA CASUALTIES REPORTED IN ZELAYA

PA131903 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 12 Nov 85

[Text] The Sandinist People's Army has thus far inflicted at least 140 casualties on the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, in the course of the ongoing "Independence" operation in central Zelaya. The casualties include 100 dead, 30 wounded, and 10 prisoners, including two contra detachment chiefs. A total of 15 contra camps were also destroyed in the actions staged from 22 September to 30 October in the mountains of central Zelaya.

Operation "Independence" is being carried out in the area between the banks of the Matagalpa and Prinzapolka Rivers, covering some 300 square km of mountainous terrain.

So far there have been 68 clashes, Captain Pedro Agurcia, chief of the operation, reported. He indicated the plan seeks to deal a blow to the forces of the FDN's so-called Jorge Salazar Regional Command, which have been demoralized by this offensive.

The military officer denounced intervention by the Honduran Government in the aggression against Nicaragua, saying that it has supplied weapons to the mercenaries by dropping them from a C-47 aircraft flying from the direction of Honduras. At least three violations of Nicaraguan airspace were sighted during the past two weeks, he said. One of them, Capt Agurcia reported, took place on Monday, when a C-47 flying from Honduras supplied the Somozist mercenary forces in Tungla and (Apabonta). He added that the flight was sighted at 2100 and the drop was chaotic due to the pressure the Sandinist troops exerted against the mercenaries' ground forces. Agurcia also said that on 17 October the command post of the Jorge Salazar Regional Command at Amatitan Creek was destroyed and that 15 contra camps were dismantled.

ORTEGA CONTACTS GORBACHEV ON ANNIVERSARY

PA080357 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Nov 85

[Text] Moscow -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev continues receiving congratulation messages on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution and many countries are celebrating the anniversary.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega wished the Soviet people every success in carrying out the nine stages in the construction of socialism. In his message to Gorbachev, President Ortega said that for the Sandinist revolution, the October revolution has great significance.

MALAGASY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

FL131336 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] Jean Bemananjara, Malagasy minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Havana a few hours ago in response to an official invitation from the Cuban Government. Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca received him at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport. Bemananjara is presiding over his country's delegation to the fourth meeting of the joint Cuban-Malagasy Intergovernmental Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation.

DELEGATE TO UN MEETING CALLS FOR END TO ARMS RACE

PA131922 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Nov 85

[Text] Cuba has spoken in favor of stopping the arms race in space and reducing military expenditures for the sake of development. At the first UN Commission on Disarmament, Development, and the Use of Space for Military Purposes, Cuban delegate Nestor Garcia Iturbe expressed the need to find a specific and final solution for this problem.

He criticized the intransigent policy of the U.S. Government, which refuses to acknowledge the importance of using outer space for peaceful purposes.

The Cuban diplomat praised the new initiative of the Soviet Union that proposes ending arms buildup and developing international cooperation for peaceful purposes. He highlighted the importance of achieving a new world economic order and noted that nothing is more vital for world peace than using money spent daily on destruction to build and to eliminate obligations to the foreign debt.

AALAPSO PRAISES 'ANGOLAN STRUGGLE'; CONDEMNS U.S.

PA121610 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Nov 85

[Text] AALAPSO has reiterated its support for the Angolan peoples' struggle and condemned the U.S. Government for supporting the South African regime. In a ceremony in Havana commemorating the 10th anniversary of Angolan independence, AALAPSO Secretary General Rene Anillo stressed Angola's role in maintaining peace in southern Africa.

Angolan Ambassador to Cuba (Pedro Pacavida) reiterated his people's determination to resist imperialist and South African aggressions and expressed appreciation for Cuban aid to Angola.

EDUCATION MINISTER MEETS WITH SOVIET OFFICIAL

FL150044 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Cuban Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret has met in Moscow with (Aleksander Stechanov), vice chairman of the Soviet State Commission For Foreign Economic Relations.

Views on higher education cooperation between Cuba and the Soviet Union for the next 5 years were discussed. They also discussed supplying laboratory equipment for Cuba's higher education centers.

U.S. CHURCH COUNCIL INVITES OFFICIAL TO MEETING

PA140110 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0300 GMT 12 Nov 85

[By Colin Mcseveny]

[Text] Havana, 11 Nov (REUTER) -- Important U.S. ecclesiatic officials have invited the Cuban Government's principal spokesman on religious affairs to a meeting in New York, challenging President Ronald Reagan's ban on visits by officials of the Communist Party of Cuba, according to religious sources.

These sources told REUTER that the U.S. National Council of Churches, the main Protestant organization of the nation, invited its Cuban counterpart to a meeting next week, and asked that the members be accompanied by Jose Carneado, chief of the Communist Party's Office of Religious Affairs.

Carneado is a member of the party's Central Committee and, under a ban announced last month by Reagan, he would not be allowed to enter the United States.

"It is a potentially embarassing situation for the White House because the invitation comes from a highly-respected organization," a Western diplomat commented.

However, a spokesman from the U.S. Interests Section in Havana gave little importance to the possible consequences, indicating that the ban is certainly not automatic and allows some exceptions.

"We are studying the situation," the spokesman said, although he could not confirm if Carneado had made a formal request for a visa.

The only apparent exceptions [to the exclusion] concern Cuban government officials who travel to Washington and New York on government diplomatic missions to the White House or the United Nations.

Religious sources indicate that the meeting, the most recent in a number of exchanges between U.S. and Cuban clergy, was called to discuss the churches' situation in Cuba and the opinion of Fidel Castro's government.

RAUL CASTRO SENDS MESSAGE PRAISING 'GUAMA-85'

FL131304 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and FAR minister, has congratulated Pinar del Rio Province for the successful "Guama-85" exercise carried out in October, in which more than 250,000 persons participated. Castro expressed his congratulations in a message to Orlando Lugo, alternate member of the Central Committee and first party secretary in Pinar del Rio Province.